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# BLACK HILL

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## Location

DESERT ROAD SCARSDALE, GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE

## Municipality

GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7622-0023

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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Hermes Number 12018

Property Number

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## History

Contextual History:History of Place:

Heritage Inventory History of Site:

30.09.1857: there has been a rush to the gully at Black Hill which runs towards Linton; there are 2000 to 3000 miners on the ground including many Chinese and the yield is reported to be good with the depth of sinking at 60 feet.

08.07.1858: companies are cutting races to use the water for the surfacing at Watson's Hill and Black Hill.

North-east side of Black Hill

07.1859: a new lead has been discovered by a party of Chinese; 10 block claims have been registered; the gutter is found at a depth of 90 feet and produces 2.5 ozs per cubic yard; the last 2 claims are on trap-rock.

#### BLACK HILL PUDDLING AND SLUICING COMPANY.

04.08.1858: the Black Hill Sluicing Co. have commenced this week and have a fine reservoir opposite the German Lead.

01.1860: fittings and machinery are nearly complete.

05.1860: operation is in working order and the company is satisfied with the prospects of its adventure.

06.1860: company to be reorganised; yield of 24 ozs from 500 cart loads has proved the ground but the operation is not very efficient; the present method of operation is to convey earth in trucks 160 yards along a steep incline to a puddling machine; recommends the expenditure of 1000 pounds on a steam engine and forcing pumps would allow the 16 shareholders to wash 500 loads per week and obtain a yield of 25 ozs.

08.1860: partnership dissolved and the claim sold at auction; purchasers intend using skilful labor and proper machinery to make this a paying claim.

(new company - no name given)

11.1860: new sluicing company have their works almost prepared; their machinery is select and the operation is well run.

12.1860: company in full working order.

03.1861: operations suspended; trial was unsuccessful; claim and plant will be advertised for sale.

#### BLACK HILL TUNNEL CO., Scarsdale

24.04.1860: got their machinery into full working order after six months work; have put in a tunnel 150 feet, laid down 600 feet of double tramway, put a very substantial dam across Smythes Creek, cut a race 5 feet deep and a quarter of a mile long, sunk a well is placed a vertical acting set of pumps which raises water 45 feet and afterwards conveyed to a reservoir on the side of the hill to supply the engine and puddling machine; have a very neat 8 horse power engine which works first rate and answers their purpose admirably; the tramway has an incline of 140 feet, the full truck down pulls the empty one up with great ease; the works are a credit to the eight men in this company; they commenced puddling last Monday.

#### BLACK HILL TUNNEL Co., Scarsdale

14.09.1896: extended their drive to 553 feet.

#### Jupiter Lead, Black Hill,

12.1867: a new shaft was bottomed on the Jupiter Lead at Black Hill and it contains good prospects.

#### Oldham Lead the south-western side of Black Hill

10.1858: discovered.

07.1859: has measured up to expectations; two companies using engines still at work on the lead; the first has not reached the gutter and the fortunes of the second fluctuate between subsistence and inadequate wages.

#### BILLING AND COMPANY, north of Black Hill

03.1861: sinking for a new lead and the indicators are good.

#### BLACK HAWK PROSPECTING COMPANY, on the south-western side of Black Hill,

07.1859: run of auriferous ground found at a depth of 45 feet; 6 block claims are busily at work producing 1.5 ozs per cubic yard from wash-dirt that is 1 to 2 feet thick.

#### FITZROY COMPANY, at Black Hill, near Allotment 9 Scarsdale, described as the lowest in this gully;

11.1860: sunk one shaft and are beginning another; this lead and the Oldham are likely to join and form a tributary to the main lead near Allotment 9 Scarsdale.

#### SCARSDALE SLUICING CO., Black Hill, Scarsdale

#### SCARSDALE HYDRAULIC CO.,

18.08.1906: a sluicing company is constructing a dam and a pumping plant will be erected.

27.10.1906: constructing a 30 million gallon water supply dam; the average depth of the wash is 40 feet; the plant to treat the wash will be ready by next year.

24.11.1906: completed the concrete foundations for the machinery; boiler is expected to be delivered to day; construction of the large dam is going well.

12.01.1907: machinery is about finished and active work will commence soon.

23.03.1907: new pump to be installed which will be capable of pumping 100 tons per hour.

13.04.1907: operating on a good face for three shifts; awaiting the 12 inch pump.

20.04.1907: operating with two shifts on a face of wash 10 to 25 feet deep.

15.06.1907: putting a 12 inch Robinson pump to replace the 10 inch one.

03.08.1907: working three shifts,

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*For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>*